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# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/837,487
Confirmation Number	9915
Filing Date	April 19, 2001
First Named Inventor	Kazuo OOYA
Art Unit	206F 3627
Examiner Name	Unknown A. Ruddy
Attorney Docket Number	Q64156

Sheet 1 of 1

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US			
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>4</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
ASD		JP	11-175638	A	07/02/1999		
ASD		JP	11-340965	A	12/10/1999		

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## OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>4</sup>
ASD		ISO 14001 Development of electronic audit systems. Proceedings (4) of the 58 <sup>th</sup> National Meeting of the Information Processing Society of Japan (1999 first term), Information Processing Society of Japan, March 11, 1999, pp. 4-303, 4-304.	
ASD		Environmental Standard ISO 14001 Hitachi: "Towards a Proposal for Electronization and Networking of Audits." Nikkei Sangyo Shimbun, November 21, 1997, page 1.	

Examiner Signature

*Andrew Joseph Ruddy*

Date Considered

1/11/07

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.